

A NEW NAME FOR THE
PUBERULENT SESSILE-LEAVED UVULARIA

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For more than three-quarters of a century the puberulent sessile-leaved bellwort, which has a range extending from New Jersey and Pennsylvania south to Georgia and as far west as West Virginia and Tennessee, was known scientifically as *Uvularia puberula*, the name given to it by Michaux in 1803. Asa Gray in 1839, as reported by Fernald (*Rhodora* 41:537. 1939) identified the specimen in Walter's herbarium, upon which "Anonymos pudica" was based, as *Uvularia puberula*. He made no new combination since the convention generally followed by Gray adopted the first epithet given to a species in the accepted genus as its proper binary name.

In segregating the sessile-leaved species as the genus *Oakesia*, Sereno Watson in 1879 provided the new combination *O. puberula*. A new complexity was introduced in 1889 by N. L. Britton who described what has proven to be the glabrous variant of this species as "*Oakesia sessilifolia* var. (?) *nitida*." In 1893 Morong provided the combination "*Uvularia sessilifolia nitida*" and by 1908 Mackenzie had concluded that the plant from the New Jersey pine-barrens was more closely related to *U. puberula*. However, thinking its differences to be of specific rank, he made the combination *U. nitida*. Prior to Mackenzie's publication, however, Small, agreeing that the sessile-leaved bellworts were generically distinct from *Uvularia*, published the name *Oakesiella*. This was necessary since Watson's *Oakesia* (1879) was a later homonym of *Oakesia* Tuckerm. (1842), a later synonym of *Corema* D. Don (c.1826), a genus in the Empetraceae. *Oakesia*, it might be noted in passing, was a perfectly permissible generic name in the Liliaceae under the International Code until about 1935 but such names were always taboo

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under the provisions of the Code under which Small published (see Canon 16 b, Bull. Torrey Club 31:257. 1904). Small's new generic name in his Flora of 1903 required among others the accompanying new combination of *Oakesiella puberula*. In 1933 Small maintained the genus *Oakesiella* and, overlooking the combination *O. nitida* made by Heller in 1910, in the appendix of the Manual again made the combination *O. nitida* although attributing it to Mackenzie.

Fernald (*Rhodora* 37:407-409. 1935) discussed the thinner-leaved, glabrous variant and provided the combination *U. puberula* var. *nitida*. Four years later Fernald (*Rhodora* 41:536-538. 1939), investigating the "*Anonymos pudic.*" of Walter, concluded that there was no reason to doubt Asa Gray's determination. He therefore made two new combinations, *U. pudica* and *U. pudica* var. *nitida*, even though such names based upon *Anonymos* of Walter "were subject to ridicule by some of the younger English botanists."

In the nomenclatural sessions of the 1950 Stockholm Congress however these "younger English botanists" including and led by the then septuagenarian Dr. T. A. Sprague prevailed upon the majority of the delegates to declare definitely illegitimate "binary combinations of a specific epithet with the word *Anonymos.*" (Article 23). The price of this insistence upon consistency will be at least nineteen changes in citation which have been largely ignored by most American taxonomists. Unfortunately a new combination is required for the above discussed bellwort.

Almost all of these necessary changes in citation will result merely in the appearance of the relatively unfamiliar J. F. Gmelin, the author of the 13th edition of Linnaeus' *Systema Naturae*, in place of the long-familiar Thomas Walter. Gmelin's *Systema* appeared in 1791, only three years after Walter's *Flora*, and for the most part Walter's species were included there. Most of the "*Anonymos*" genera were either assigned new generic names or their species included in previously established genera. Gmelin however sometimes made no reference whatever to Walter's species and once provided an entirely new epithet.

Turning then to Gmelin (Syst. Nat. ed. 13. 2:546. 1791), we find the following:

414. ERYTHRONIUM. Cor. 6 petala, campanulata.
Nectario tuberculis 2
petalorum alternorum
basi adnatis.

Dens canis. 1. E. foliis oppositis. *Jacq. fl. austr.* 5. app. t. 9.
carolinia- 2. E. foliis alternis. *Walt. flor. carol.* p. 122.
num.

Index Kewensis wrongly attributed *Erythronium carolinianum* to Walter's Flora (p. 122), (an obvious error since the genus *Erythronium* is not included as such) and equated the name to the synonymy of *Erythronium americanum* over which, if true, it would have priority. For "*Anonymos pudica*", however, which of course is the same plant, Index Kewensis equates it to *Uvularia perfoliata*. This determination is in accord with the disposition of this name by Michaux (*Fl. Bor.-Am.* 199. 1803). Dietz (*Ann. Mo. Bot. Gard.* 39:225. 1952) argues that "the name *Uvularia pudica* should be discarded and Michaux's *U. puberula* restored." His stated reason was that Walter described the plant as having "foliis amplexicaulibus" which Dietz felt not to be true. The term "amplexicaule" is not too far from the mark for the sessile leaves, even in fruiting specimens, are often so broadly rounded at base that they do "clasp the stem." Even Michaux, whose name Dietz accepts, described the leaves of this species as "subamplexicaulibus".

Fernald has quoted notes, (*Rhodora* 41:537. 1939) made in 1839, in which Gray, while examining the contents of Walter's herbarium, wrote that "*Anonymos* (Erythronio aff.) *pudica!* = *Uvularia puberula*." Certainly Asa Gray would never have mistaken *U. puberula* for one of the perfoliate species; as Fernald wrote "there is no reason to doubt Gray's identification; there is every reason to accept it."

Apparently the first author to recognize this species following Walter was J. F. Gmelin in 1791. This work in regard to Walter's species at least, was merely a compilation. The new species described under *Anonymos* by Walter were

either provided with new generic names, utilizing no more information than provided by Walter and in most cases providing far less, or assigned to an established genus. Following Walter's hint ("Erythronio affinis?") as to the affinities of this species, Gmelin made it the second species of *Erythronium* but substituted the epithet *carolinianum*. Such a substitution by Gmelin is legitimate by our present Code since Walter's epithets with "Anonymos" are no longer "taken into consideration for purposes of priority". Hence the puberulent sessile-leaved bellwort again must submit to a change in name. In the formal listing of synonymy below I include those names intended to apply to the glabrous or nearly glabrous representative which I do not believe merits formal recognition.

Uvularia caroliniana (J. F. Gmelin) Wilbur, comb. nov.

Anonymos pudic. Walt., Fl. Car. 123. 1788. *nom. illeg.* Art 23.
Erythronium carolinianum J. F. Gmel., Syst. Nat. ed. 13. 2: 546. 1791.
Uvularia puberula Michx., Fl. Bor.-Am.1: 199. 1803. *Oakesia puberula* (Michx.) S. Wats., Proc. Am. Acad. 14: 269. 1879. *Oakesia sessilifolia* var. (?) *nitida* Britt., N. Y. Acad. Sci. 9: 13. 1889. *Uvularia sessilifolia nitida* (Britt.) Morong, Mem. Torrey Club 5: 111. 1893. *Oakesiella puberula* (Michx.) Small, Fl. SE. U. S. 271. 1903. *Uvularia nitida* (Britt.) Mackenzie, Torreyia 8: 14. 1908. *Oakesiella nitida* (Britt.) Heller, Muhlenbergia 6: 83. 1910. *Uvularia puberula* var. *nitida* (Britt.) Fern., Rhodora 37: 407. 1935. *Uvularia pudica* (Walt.) Fern., Rhodora 41: 536. 1939. *Uvularia pudica* var. *nitida* (Britt.) Fern., Rhodora 41: 536. 1939. — DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY, DUKE UNIVERSITY, DURHAM, N. C.

NEW RECORDS FOR NORTH DAKOTA¹

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Since the publication of my Handbook (Stevens, 1950), some 60 species have been added to the State list. Some are recently introduced weeds, some have been found for the first time, while others had been incorrectly identified. A few records for species previously reported are included in the following list where they are of special interest in extending the known range. Moore (1951) noted some additions and changes in status. Some of these are included here

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